

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A complex of a ligand and a polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from (i) amino acids 40-60 of SEQ ID NO:7 (mouse synaptotagmin II botulinum toxin serotype B (BoNT/B)-binding domain), (ii) amino acids 40-60 of SEQ ID NO:9 (rat synaptotagmin II botulinum toxin serotype B (BoNT/B)-binding domain), and (iii) a fragment of a mouse or rat synaptotagmin II homolog that corresponds to (i) or (ii), that is homologous or at least 70% identical to a murine synaptotagmin II botulinum toxin serotype B (BoNT/B)-binding domain at amino acid position 40 to 60, wherein the ligand is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ BoNT/B and an antibody against said amino acid sequence, and wherein the ligand binds to the polypeptide at said amino acid sequence, with the proviso that where the polypeptide is a full length synaptotagmin, the ligand is not a botulinum toxin.

11-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The complex of claim 50 10, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ amino acids 40-60 of SEQ ID NO:7 and amino acids 40-60 of SEQ ID NO:9.

15-41. (canceled)

42. (previously presented) The complex of claim 10, wherein the ligand is BoNT/B, and wherein the polypeptide is a synthetic or recombinant peptide.

43. (previously presented) The complex of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide has a sequence identical or homologous to a luminal domain of a synaptotagmin.

44. (previously presented) The complex of claim 42, wherein the polypeptide consists of the BoNT/B-binding domain and optionally further consists of an affinity tag.

45. (previously presented) The complex of claim 10, wherein the ligand is an antibody that binds to the BoNT/B-binding domain and reduces binding of BoNT/B to the polypeptide.

46. (previously presented) The complex of any one of claim 10 or claim 45, wherein the polypeptide is a full length synaptotagmin.

47. (currently amended) ~~The complex of claim 45,~~ A complex of a ligand and a polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from (i) amino acids 40 to 60 of SEQ ID NO:7 (mouse synaptotagmin II botulinum toxin serotype B (BoNT/B)-binding domain), (ii) amino acids 40 to 60 of SEQ ID NO:9 (rat synaptotagmin II botulinum toxin serotype B (BoNT/B)-binding domain), and (iii) a fragment of a mouse or rat synaptotagmin II homolog that corresponds to (i) or (ii), wherein the ligand is an antibody that binds to the polypeptide at said amino acid sequence and reduces binding of BoNT/B to the polypeptide, and wherein the complex is located *in vivo* in a mammal..

48. (previously presented) The complex of claim 10, wherein the polypeptide further comprises a binding site for a ganglioside.

49. (previously presented) The complex of claim 10, wherein the polypeptide is a recombinant polypeptide.

50. (canceled)

51. (withdrawn) A method of forming the complex of claim 10 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

52-54. (canceled)

55. (withdrawn) A method of forming the complex of claim 14 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

56. (canceled)

57. (withdrawn) A method of forming the complex of claim 42 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

58. (withdrawn) The method of claim 57 further comprising one step of contacting the polypeptide with a second compound, and another step of determining influence of the second compound on binding of BoNT/B to the polypeptide.

59. (withdrawn) The method of claim 58 wherein the step of determining is used to identify an agent that reduces toxicity of BoNT/B in human.

60. (withdrawn) A method of forming the complex of claim 43 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

61. (withdrawn) A method of forming the complex of claim 44 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

62. (withdrawn) A method of forming the complex of claim 45 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

63. (withdrawn) A method of forming the complex of claim 46 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

64. (withdrawn) The method of claim 51 wherein the complex is formed *in vivo* in a mammal to thereby reduce toxicity of a botulinum toxin in the mammal.

65. (withdrawn) A method of forming the complex of claim 48 comprising the step of contacting the polypeptide with the ligand at a concentration effective to form the complex.

66. (canceled)

67. (withdrawn) The method of claim 51 wherein the ligand is BoNT/B, and further comprising a step of detecting the complex to determine at least one of the presence and quantity of BoNT/B.